

## Message Text

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ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-11 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20

USIA-15 IO-14 OMB-01 DRC-01 NIC-01 EUR-25 COA-02 CG-00

DOTE-00 EB-11 /145 W

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R 310905Z JUL 74

FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5150

INFO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

US MISSION USUN 1401

C O N F I D E N T I A L SEOUL 4982

E.O. 11652 GDS

TAGS:PFOR, AS, KS, KN

SUBJECT: AUSTRALIAN RELATIONS WITH NORTH KOREA

1. ROKG JULY 31 HAS ISSUED THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT ON ESTABLISHMENT OF RELATIONS BETWEEN AUSTRALIA AND NORTH KOREA. QUOTE. THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA DEEPLY REGRETS THAT THE GOVERNMENT OF AUSTRALIA, A TRADITIONALLY CLOSE FRIEND, HAS DECIDED TO EXTEND ITS DIPLOMATIC RECOGNITION TO NORTH KOREA.

IT IS TO BE NOTED THAT NORTH KOREA HAS BEEN MAINTAINING ITS NEGATIVE AND PROVOCATIVE ATTITUDE TO THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA, AS EVIDENCED BY NORTH KOREA'S UNILATERAL ANNOUNCEMENT OF BOYCOTTING THE SOUTH-NORTH DIALOGUE IN AUGUST LAST YEAR, ITS REJECTION OF OUR PROPOSAL FOR A NON-AGGRESSION AGREEMENT IN JANUARY THIS YEAR, AND THE SERIES OF RECENT ARMED PROVOCATIONS INCLUDING INHUMANE AND UNLAWFUL ATTACKS ON OUR FISHING VESSELS ON HIGH SEAS AND A COAST GUARD BOAT PATROLLING FISHING AREAS OFF THE EAST COAST IN FEBRUARY AND JUNE 1974, RESPECTIVELY.

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IN THE LIGHT OF THE MOUNTING TENSION IN THE

KOREAN PENINSULA AS DESCRIBED ABOVE, IT IS THE VIEW OF THE KOREAN GOVERNMENT THAT THE AUSTRALIAN DECISION WILL NOT ONLY ADVERSELY AFFECT OUR EFFORTS FOR THE SUCCESSFUL CONDUCT OF THE SOUTH-NORTH DIALOGUE AIMED AT SECURING PEACE AND STABILITY AND ACHIEVING A PEACEFUL UNIFICATION OF THE COUNTRY, BUT ALSO HAVE A GRAVE BEARING ON THE PEACE AND SECURITY IN KOREA AS WELL AS THE EQUILIBRIUM BETWEEN THE SOUTH AND THE NORTH.

THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA CONSIDERS IT NECESSARY THAT OUR FRIENDS REFRAIN FROM EXTENDING THEIR RECOGNITION TO NORTH KOREA UNLESS RECIPROCAL RECOGNITION IS SECURED FOR THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA FROM ALLIES OF NORTH KOREA.  
UNQUOTE

2. MOFA SOUTHEAST ASIA I DIVISION CHIEF CHOI TOLD EMBOFF JULY 31 THAT "HIGH OFFICIALS" OF ROKG ARE DEEPLY DISAPPOINTED WITH AUSTRALIAN MOVE AND THAT FURTHER ROKG REACTION IS POSSIBLE. CHOI WOULD NOT EXCLUDE RECALL OF AMBASSADOR RO, AT LEAST FOR CONSULTATIONS, BUT SAID ULTIMATE REACTION WILL BE DETERMINED BY PRESIDENT PARK, WHO IS CURRENTLY OUT OF SEOUL. MOFA IS CURRENTLY PREPARING BACKGROUND PAPERS FOR PARK'S USE. HOWEVER, CHOI SAID HE COULD NOT PREDICT WHAT PRESIDENT'S DECISION WOULD BE.

3. IN CONVERSATION WITH EMBOFF, AUSTRALIAN EMBOFF GOGGIN TERMED ROKG STATEMENT ONE OF ANGUISH WHICH MIGHT POSSIBLY BE OF SOME USE TO AUSTRALIAN OPPOSITION PARTY. GOGGIN TOLD EMBOFF THAT GOA WOULD NOT BE COMMENTING ON ROKG STATEMENT. HE INDICATED AUSTRALIANS IN FINAL ANALYSIS DO NOT EXPECT ROKG WILL TAKE ANY FURTHER ACTION.  
HABIB

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## Message Attributes

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